

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 36 (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) A percutaneous guidance catheter system, comprising:

an elongate member having a proximal end, a distal end and a first lumen therebetween;

an expandable filter having a proximal edge attached to the elongate member and a distal edge extending distal of the distal end of the elongate member, the proximal edge of the expandable filter being attached to the elongate member proximally of the distal end; and

a therapeutic catheter at least partially disposed in the first lumen of the elongate member.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the therapeutic catheter is an ablation device.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the ablation device is configured to ablate ectopic foci.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the ablation device comprises a thermal ablation device.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the ablation device comprises a laser ablation device.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the ablation device comprises a microwave ablation device.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the ablation device comprises a cryogenic ablation device.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the elongate member further comprises a second lumen extending from the distal end.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the second lumen is an aspiration lumen.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the filter surrounds the therapeutic catheter.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment, comprising the steps of:
providing a percutaneous guidance catheter system having a clongate member having a proximal end, a distal end and a lumen therebetween, an expandable filter disposed on the elongate member having a proximal edge attached to the elongate member and a distal edge distal the distal end of the elongate member, and a therapeutic catheter at least partially disposed in the lumen of the elongate member, the proximal edge of the expandable filter being attached to the elongate member proximally of the distal end;

inserting the catheter system into a vessel;
positioning the filter near a region of interest;
expanding the filter; and
using the therapeutic catheter on the region of interest.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the step of expanding the filter includes the step of sealing the filter against a wall of the vessel.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the region of interest is an ectopic foci and the step of using the therapeutic catheter includes the step of ablating the ectopic foci.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising the step of capturing necrosed tissue particles generated during the step of ablating the ectopic foci.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the step of providing a percutaneous guidance catheter system includes the step of providing an aspiration system with an operable end proximate the end of the elongate member, and further comprising the step of aspirating the necrosed tissue particles.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the aspiration system includes a second lumen in the elongate member.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, further comprising the step of positioning the therapeutic catheter.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of position the therapeutic catheter is separate from the step of positioning the filter.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the step of positioning the therapeutic catheter is subsequent to the step of expanding the filter.